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Young: LBJ Shouldn't Listen To Generals

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WASHINGTON—U.S. generals are notoriously wrong and President Lyndon B. Johnson should stop taking their advice, Ohio Sen. Stephen M. Young told the Senate Tuesday.

Rattling off several examples of generals whose forecasts proved inaccurate, the Ohio Democrat said LBJ should tell generals to stick to being generals, and the Central Intelligence Agency to confine its activities to gathering intelligence.

YOUNG SAID the U.S. should withdraw its forces to South Viet Nam seaports and seek a cease-fire settlement and armistice through a renewal of the 1954 Geneva Conference.

"We lose face by messing into this miserable civil war in the steaming jungles and rice paddies of Southeast Asia," he complained.

YOUNG SAID Communist China never would succeed in holding sway over Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand.

"The people of Southeast Asia have over thousands of years—over the ages—shown an obstinate insistence on shaping their own destiny. The Chinese never, never overcame this and they would fail now."